



U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Office of Information

Press Service



Release - Immediate.

August 17, 1927.

COOPERATIVE PREDATORY-ANIMAL  
CONTROL INAUGURATED IN ALASKA

Predatory-animal control work has recently been inaugurated in Alaska, under a cooperative agreement between Governor Parks and the Biological Survey of the United States Department of Agriculture. R. K. Stewart, of the Biological Survey, formerly assistant leader of predatory-animal control in California, has been detailed to Alaska as leader to study predatory-animal conditions there and to develop and demonstrate suitable methods for controlling these animals, particularly wolves and coyotes, which prey upon wild game and livestock to a serious degree. In cooperation with the Alaska Game Commission, trappers and other persons will be instructed in the control methods developed by the Biological Survey. Officials of the Forest Service and of other organizations and individuals who may be interested and in position to participate in an organized system of checking predatory-animal depredations will also cooperate. \*\*

Operations against predatory animals in Alaska were undertaken by the Biological Survey in the winter of 1922-23, and similar work was conducted from September to February of the following season. Gratifying success was achieved, particularly in the destruction of gray wolves, by the application of methods similar to those approved by the Survey for use in the western range States, where coyotes, bobcats, and wolves annually cause thousands of dollars loss to livestock raisers, not to mention their depredations on wild game and birds.

The present cooperative agreement between the Federal and Territorial governments is similar to those in effect between the Federal Government and most of the Western States. Expenses for traps, poison, and other supplies and the salary of the leader in charge are borne by the Territory, while the Biological Survey provides the leader and lends all assistance in carrying out methods in control work as economically as possible, as well as whatever financial aid it is possible to render from Federal appropriations for cooperative predatory-animal control. The Territorial legislature, in its last session, appropriated \$10,000 to be used in the present undertaking.

# # #